

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 EC BRU 00351 131924Z

ACTION SIL-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAJ-01 /105 W

-----132024Z 033218 /42

R 131715Z JAN 77

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2761

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2977

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY HELSINKO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 00351

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, PL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 EC BRU 00351 131924Z

SUBJECT: WCL AND WFTU SECRETARIATS TO CONFER

1. MEMBERS OF THE WORLD CONFEDERATION OF LABOR (WCL)

SECRETARIATS ARE PLANNING TO MEET IN PRAGUE FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS

SOMETIME THIS YEAR WITH OFFICIALS OF THE COMMUNIST-DOMINATED

WORLD FEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS (WFTU). THE TWO

SIDES HAVE NOT YET AGREED ON A MEETING DATE.

2. JAN KULAKOWSKI WCL GENERAL SECRETARY, PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION JAN 12 IN RESPONSE TO A QUERY AT A BRIEFING IN HIS OFFICE ATTENDED BY THREE BRUSSELS-BASED LABOR ATTACHES (BRITISH, CANADIAN AND U.S.). UNDER FURTHER QUESTIONING, HE SAID THAT THE MEETING WAS ONE OF PERIODIC CONTACTS (LAST IN BRUSSELS IN 1975) FOR "EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION" BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. "WE ARE CONTINUING AS BEFORE, NEITHER STOPPING OUR CONTACTS NOR IMPROVING THEM," HE SAID.

3. ASKED WHETHER DISCUSSIONS MIGHT INCLUDE THE ARREST OF POLISH TRADE UNIONISTS, HE SAID, "" I SUPPOSE THAT SOMETHING WILL COME UP ON THAT." THE WCL'S SEMI-MONTHLY PRESS COMMUNIQUE", "FLASH" HAD IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER CARRIED BRIEF NEWS ITEMS ON THE POLISH SITUATION, REPORTS THAT KULAKOWSKI THOUGHT THE WFTU OFFICIALS MIGHT TRY TO REBUT. HE IMPLIED THAT THE NEXT ISSUE OF "FLASH" WOULD CONTAIN CRITICAL WORDS ABOUT THE POLISH DEVELOPMENTS.

4. HOWEVER, THE JANUARY 15 "FLASH", WHICH WE LATER OBTAINED FROM THE WCL PRESS OFFICE, CONTAINS ITS USUAL STRONG TALK ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN COUNTRIES LIKE ARGENTINA AND PORTUGAL, BUT DEALS WITH POLAND GENTLY. AFTER NOTING THAT "TENSION HAS BY NO MEANS BEEN EASED" IN POLAND AS A RESULT OF THE JUNE STRIKES, THE BRIEF ARTICLE STATES:
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 EC BRU 00351 131924Z

5. "MANY MEMBERS OF THE 'WORKERS' DEFENSE COMMITTEE' HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO DISTRESS BY THE POLISH AUTHORITIES. BUT THAT DID NOT STOP THE COMMITTEE FROM CONTESTING THE DECLARATIONS MADE BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL. FURTHERMORE, 172 POLISH INTELLECTUALS HAVE REQUESTED THE SETTING UP OF A PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.

6. "IT MUST BE ASKED IF THE TREATS MADE BY THE AUTHORITIES TO THE CATHOLIC INTELLECTUALS CLUB OF VARSOVIE, AND TO THE MAGAZINE 'WIEZ', DO NOT GO HAND IN HAND WITH THE SAME CAMPAIGN. THE WCL HOPES THAT MATTERS WILL BE MADE CLEAR, AND AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE."

7. OTHER WCL NEWS, CULLED FROM THE KULAKOWSKI BRIEFING AND THE LATEST "FLASH":

(A) WCL CONGRESS: THE WCL'S 19TH CONGRESS, TO BE

HELD IN BELGIUM OCT. 17-22, WILL HAVE TWO THEMES:
"RENOVATION OF WORLD TRADE UNIONISM" AND "THE TRADE
UNION MOVEMENT AND THE MULTINATIONALS." THE NEXT WCL
CONFEDERAL BOARD MEETING, TO BE HELD APRIL 25-29 IN
BELGIM (CITY NOT YET SELECTED), WILL DEAL WITH FURTHER
ASPECTS OF THE CONGRESS.

(B) KULAKOWSKI'S TRAVELS. IN FEBRUARY KULAKOWSKI
WILL TAKE A TRIP THROUGH AFRICA, THE ONLY CONTINENT HE
HAS NOT VISITED SINCE BECOMING WCL GENERAL SECRETARY
EARLY LAST YEAR. IN HIS REVIEW OF THE TRADE UNION
SITUATION IN ASIA, AS GARNERED FROM A THREE-WEEK VISIT
THERE IN DECEMBER, HIS MOST SIGNIFICANT POINT WAS THIS:
THAT THE ALL-INDONESIAN LABOR FEDERATION (FBSI) WAS
"NOT TO BE REJECTED" BECAUSE OF GOVERNMENT AND PARTY
TIES, AND THAT IT EMBODIES A GENUINE TRADE UNION SPIRIT,
ESPECIALLY AT THE LOCAL AND SECTORAL LEVELS.

(C) SO. AFRICA. WCL AFFILIATES WILL JOIN THE
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 EC BRU 00351 131924Z

ICFTU-LED WEEK OF SOLIDARITY FOR SOUTH AFRICAN WORKERS
THAT BEGINS JAN. 17, BUT THEIR PROTESTS WILL NOT
INCLUDE ANY SYMPATHY STRIKES OR SLOWDOWNS.

(D) RELATIONS WITH ICFTU. RELATIONS BETWEEN THE
WCL AND THE ICFTU HAVE NOTICEABLY COOLED SINCE THE
WCL IN NOVEMBER UNQUIVOCALLY TOLD THE ICFTU A MERGER
WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. "OUR INTENTION IS NOT TO
BREAK RELATIONS," SAID KULAKOWSKI, ADDING THAT HE HAS
BEEN TRYING TO GET AN APPOINTMENT WITH ICFTU GENERAL
SECRETARY KERSTEN.

(E) PAN-EUROPEAN LABOR MEETING. THE WCL SECRETARIAT
WILL NOT ATTEND THE EAST--WEST "LABOR" MEETING THAT WILL
BE HELD IN GENEVA EARLY IN MARCH, BUT KULAKOWSKI WILL
MEET WITH WCL-AFFILIATED PARTICIPANTS IN ADVANCE,
PROBABLY MARCH 3. HINTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNION OFFICIALS, PLANNING MEETINGS, COMMUNIST LABOR ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ECBRU00351
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770013-0948
Format: TEL
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770156/aaaabwth.tel
Line Count: 154
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 783e70da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SIL
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3608990
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WCL AND WFTU SECRETARIATS TO CONFER
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, PL, CZ, WFTU, WCL
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/783e70da-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009